

John H. Chafee at Pettaquamscutt Cove

National Wildlife Refuge

Rhode Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by Members of Congress:

Senator Jack Reed (D)
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D)
Rep. James Langevin (D-2nd)

Contact

Charlie Vandemoer, Refuge Manager
Rhode Island National Wildlife
Refuge Complex
50 Bend Road
Charlestown, RI 02813-2503
Phone: 401/364 9124, ext. 11
Fax: 401/364 0170
TDD: 800/877 8339
E-mail: charlie_vandemoer@fws.gov

Profile

Established:	1973
Complex acres:	2,574
Chafee acres:	522
Staff (complex-wide):	9 FTEs
*Salaries/operations	\$1,116,867
**One-time project funds	\$267,628
ARRA project funds	\$250,000
Fire	\$10,785
Fees	\$1,092
2010 volunteer hours:	1,173
2010 visitation:	26,142

*Includes annual maintenance, utilities, contracts, etc.

**Includes deferred maintenance, construction, equipment and biological projects

John H. Chafee National Wildlife
Refuge at Pettaquamscutt Cove is one
of five national wildlife refuges in the
Rhode Island Complex.

Purpose

John H. Chafee National Wildlife
Refuge was established to protect
and enhance populations of black
duck and other waterfowl, provide for
conservation and management of fish
and wildlife, fulfill international treaty
obligations respecting fish and wildlife,
and provide opportunities for scientific
research, environmental education, and
fish and wildlife-oriented recreation.

Visitor Services

- Open to fishing
- Spectacular birding from canoe or kayak
- Designated law enforcement officer shared with Connecticut refuges

Management Activities

- Implementing the approved comprehensive conservation plan (2002) to enhance wildlife habitats,

control invasive species, eliminate non-compatible uses and increase visitor services

- Land protection plan targets 1,200 acres for land acquisition
- Provide cooperative assistance to other landowners for grassland and shrubland restoration
- Protecting the threatened piping plover on cooperators' lands
- Monitoring wildlife and habitat



Kayaking

Kimberly Hayes/USFWS

Highlights

The refuge is conducting an in-depth evaluation of salt marsh sharp-tailed sparrow nesting habitat.

The refuge works with non-government organizations and schools to support watershed-wide environmental education activities.

A land exchange with the town of Narragansett to allow bike path completion added 11.5 acres to the refuge in 2006.

With the town and state department of transportation, made improvements to the Sprague Bridge boat launch site, enhancing public access to the refuge and Narrow River.

The refuge is developing a waterfowl hunting plan.

Issues

High cost of land acquisition

Reducing the spread of invasive species

Performing an environmental assessment for development of a shoreline protection strategy

Small, isolated parcels make management difficult

Managing inappropriate public uses

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

November 2010

